

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



NEWS RELEASE

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Davis Statement on Treasury IG Report Regarding TCE

Washington, D.C. – Government Reform Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) issued the following statement today on the Department of Treasury’s Inspector General report titled, *OIG-06-028: Treasury Communications Enterprise Procurement Was Poorly Planned, Executed, and Documented*:

“From the beginning, I had misgivings about the TCE procurement. I suspected for the last year or so that TCE was an ill-considered stovepipe program conceived at a time when we needed to move in the opposite direction. We should be meeting the government’s pressing need for secure, efficient, and cost-effective movement of information across agencies, departments, and jurisdictions of government. I felt that TCE would foster the perpetuation of duplicative agency-specific administrative functions across government that are far more costly and far less efficient than GSA’s centrally managed acquisition infrastructure for telecom. I made my views clear to Treasury officials time and time again.

“Today’s inspector general report confirms all of my negative assumptions about the TCE scheme. According to the IG, Treasury did not have an adequate business case for moving forward with TCE and has performed no coherent cost analysis comparing TCE with GSA telecommunications vehicles. Further, the IG notes that Treasury, in its haste to proceed with TCE, lost opportunities for cost savings and made unnecessary mistakes. The IG points out that Treasury plowed ahead with the disastrous program ‘without the requisite assurance that all requirements, options and costs were appropriately considered.’ Finally, the IG concludes that it ‘is difficult – based on the extent and quality of the documentation provided – to understand why Treasury still intends to proceed with TCE,’ and recommends that Treasury consider the option of canceling the solicitation.”

“I hate to say I told you so, but the IG report reveals exactly what I have been saying consistently for the last year: TCE is a disaster and ought to be abandoned before Treasury wastes even more precious taxpayer funds. It’s a total mystery why the Department has so stubbornly tried to move forward with TCE.”

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